16310 W. 12 Mile Road P.O. Box 160 Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076 313-557-9500

American Heart Association
of Michigan
A United Way Agency

August 6, 1990

John Beasley, Chief
Program Development Section
Center for Health Promotion
Michigan Department of Public Health
P.O. Box 30195
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Beasley:

The American Heart Association of Michigan is a member of the Tobacco-Free Michigan Action Coalition, dedicated to freeing Michiganians from the hazards of tobacco use. The American Heart Association's mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. Eliminating the risk factor of smoking would represent enormous progress towards fulfilling that mission.

We are concerned that 27% of Michigan men and 25.7% of Michigan women smoke, which is higher than the national average. We are also concerned that of 30,000 Michiganians who die from heart disease, 8,000 of those deaths are due to tobacco use.

Cigarette smoking is a major risk factor in coronary heart disease; indeed, the surgeon general has referred to it as "the most important of the known modifiable risk factors for coronary heart disease in the United States."

The concurrent use by women of oral contraceptives and cigarettes greatly increases the risk of coronary heart disease. Smokers are also at greater risk for developing malignant hypertension and dying from hypertension. Further, cigarette smoking may increase the risk for developing renovascular hypertension.

The nonsmoker is also affected by passive smoke, as the increased carbon monoxide in the air can make red blood cells less able to carry oxygen. Secondhand smoke affects platelets, which can clump together to block arteries. In addition, carcinogens in second-hand smoke can cause artery damage.

2023673652

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/zpjl0000

Since 1982, AHA has worked with the American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association in the Coalition on Smoking OR Health on tobacco issues, including smoking cessation, government tobacco price supports, advertising and clean indoor air legislation.

The Smokefree Class of 2000 project that grew out of that coalition was begun in 1988 to work with children throughout their school years to help them adopt a healthy lifestyle that excludes tobacco.

The American Heart Association of Michigan is pleased to participate in the Tobacco-Free Michigan Action Coalition, believing that such a broad-based organization with a large state-wide constituency will be effective in achieving the goal of a tobacco-free Michigan. That the coalition is coordinated by the the Center for Health Promotion of the Michigan Department of Public Health ensures that the group will have access to levels of expertise, resources and information that will greatly enhance its efforts.

Sincerely,

Gerald L. Doelle
Executive Director

2023673653

MICHIGAN DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH
AUG 7 1990
CENTER FOR HEALTH PROMOTION
CANCER & TOBACCO PROGRAM

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/zpjl0000